

Expedited Review Program

Faster Permit an Option at DHEC

Did you know that water distribution systems and wastewater collection systems may now receive construction permits through an Expedited Review Program (ERP) at DHEC? Wayne Stokes, manager of the Construction Permitting Section, summarizes the program in this way: “The goal of the ERP is to have a project reviewed and permitted no later than ten (10) business days after being logged in as a complete administrative submittal. The typical time, for non-ERP projects, just to begin the technical review is approximately five (5) weeks for wastewater projects and three (3) weeks for water projects.”

DHEC expects the highest of quality in applications selected for expedited review, and administratively incomplete projects cannot be accepted under this program. Projects submitted under the ERP in the Coastal Zone must include the appropriate Ocean and Coastal Resource Management (OCRM) certification, and wastewater projects submitted under the expedited program must include the appropriate 208 COG certification, if applicable. The fee for the ERP projects is an additional \$3,000 for a water or wastewater project or \$5,000 for a combined water and wastewater project. This fee would be in addition to the normal review fee as stated in Regulation 61-30, Environmental Protection Fees.

For more information on this program visit

<http://www.scdhec.net/environment/water/expedited.htm>. The application used for the ERP is the same application used for standard submittals. The form, DHEC 1970 (Construction Permit Application Water/Wastewater Facilities), can be found at <http://www.scdhec.net/administration/library/D-1970.pdf>.

For more information, e-mail to stokesdw@dhec.sc.gov, or call 803-898-4159.

South Carolina Environmental Laboratory Certification Meeting

On November 29th, 2007, the Office of Environmental Laboratory Certification held a meeting for all certified laboratories at the South Carolina Archives & History Center. Over 200 people from environmental laboratories registered to attend the meeting. The meeting was held to convey regulatory updates to the laboratory community, as well as to discuss options needed to address the dwindling resources facing the Certification Program. Presentations concerning the Methods Update Rule, Improper Lab Practices, Long Term 2 (LT2) Rule for Drinking Water, NPDES Sampling Procedures, Water Quality Standards, and Proficiency Testing (PT) were given by personnel from SC DHEC and the USEPA. These presentations are available at www.scdhec.gov/labcert. Stakeholder meetings with the laboratory community are being planned for 2008. If you are Interested in attending these meetings, please contact the Office of Environmental Laboratory Certification at (803) 896-0970 or e-mail Carol Smith at smithcf@dhec.sc.gov.

Reviewing South Carolina's Water Quality Standards

Water Quality Standards are found in Regulation 61-68, *Water Classifications and Standards*. Water Quality Standards define the goals for all South Carolina waterbodies by designating their uses into categories such as fishable, swimmable, and drinkable waters. Once uses are

established in a water body, water quality criteria are set to protect those uses and provisions are established to protect the waterbody from pollutants. A review of Water Quality Standards is required every three years and is called a Triennial Review. DHEC is currently in the process of a Triennial Review and the final proposed changes to the Water Quality Standards should be under Legislative review by time of this publication.

To see letters from stakeholders and other documents associated with the current Triennial Review, including the final proposed changes, visit <http://www.dhec.sc.gov/environment/water/wqstri.htm>.

If you would like more information about South Carolina's Water Quality Standards, contact Amy Bennett at bennetam@dhec.sc.gov, or come and hear her presentation at the upcoming 2008 South Carolina Environmental Conference.